

Under-Age Drinking *Are You Willing to Pay the Price?*



*A true story about a young lance corporal's
choice that set back his career.*



“The Road Ahead”

The “Road Ahead” policy letter from Brigadier General Duane Thiessen, Commanding General, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, says that any reportable incident, on or off duty (e.g. heat-related injury, alcohol, liberty, personal misconduct, etc.), will result in an immediate review to assess accountability of individuals.



This is how the story goes . . .



1 fifth of Captain Morgan -
\$15

Results of NJP for under-age drinking



- Reduction to PFC
- 60 days restriction
- $\frac{1}{2}$ month pay for two months with $\frac{3}{4}$ of that pay suspended



Monthly cost of losing a stripe

2005 Monthly Pay Scale

Base pay for LCPL \$1,456.20

Base pay for PFC \$1,384.50

TOTAL LOSS **\$71.70 per month**



Time it takes to make up stripe

**8 MONTHS TO BE PROMOTED
TO LANCE CORPORAL AGAIN**



8 months x \$71.70 =
\$573.60 in base pay lost

Time to CPL before NJP

- He had one month to go before being eligible for corporal.
- In his MOS he could have picked up corporal on 1 Feb 2005. He would have earned a base pay of \$1,695.60. Instead he got PFC base pay of \$1,384.50.
- It will take him 17 months to be eligible for corporal again.
- This is an estimated loss of \$311.10 per month, had he been a corporal.

17 months x \$311.10 =

\$5,288.70 Estimated Promotion Earnings



NJP fine

- **One half pay for two months, $\frac{3}{4}$ suspended.**
- **Base pay = $\$1,384.50 / 2 = \692.25 per mo.**
- **$\frac{3}{4}$ suspended fine = $\$1,038.38$**

Total Fine Received = $\$346.12$

Other losses and punishment

- Sixty days restriction
- Lost MCMAP gray belt
- Leave cancelled
- **Lost \$620.00** on plane ticket home
- Missed Christmas at home
- Family disappointed
- Loss of confidence from leadership
- Had to give a presentation



Total dollar amount lost

- Bottle of Captain Morgan \$15.00
- 8 months of LCPL base pay lost \$573.60
- Estimated CPL earnings lost \$5,288.70
- NJP fine \$346.12
- Plane ticket home \$620.00

TOTAL ESTIMATED LOSS \$6,843.42

What he could have done with the money he lost

- Bought a car
- Bought a new ATV
- Invested in Ameritrade 
- Gone on a cruise
- Bought a jet ski
- Paid off ¾ of truck payment
- Bought everyone in MALS a \$10 Christmas gift 
- Paid for entire family to visit

Positives

- Life-learning experience
- Learned to think about the whole outcome of something before acting by using the four principles of ORM:
 - *Accept risk when benefits outweigh the cost.*
 - *Accept no unnecessary risks.*
 - *Anticipate and manage risk by planning.*
 - *Make risk decisions at the right level.*



More lessons learned

- Learned how to create a presentation.
- Learned that there are not too many things positive about under-age drinking.



Rum cost analysis before NJP

- 1 bottle = 750 ml
- 750 ml = 25 oz
- 25 oz = 25 shots per bottle

1 bottle @ \$15.00 = \$.60 per shot



Rum cost analysis after NJP

- 1 bottle = 750 ml
- 750 ml = 25 oz
- 25 oz = 25 shots per bottle

**1 bottle @ \$6,843.42 = \$273.74 per
shot**



